

the case by a seton between the ends of the broken bones, as offering a better chance of ultimate bony union. Accordingly, the boy was brought into the operating theatre on the 3rd June, and laid upon a table on his back. Mr. Lawrence, with a scalpel, then passed the instrument posterior and close to the bone in the direction of the fibula; he then endeavored to pass the seton needle through the channel he had thus made, but without success, as there was a good deal of irregularity and induration of the structures close to the broken ends of the bones. He therefore made a counter opening between the tibia and fibula on the outer side of the leg, and passed the blade of the scalpel completely through to the first opening, and with it as a guide, the seton needle was passed through the first opening upon the scalpel without further difficulty, and the threads were drawn through. This operation is one of apparent simplicity, but it is sometimes, as in the present case, attended with some difficulty.

*Contraction of the Tendo-Achilles after partial amputation of the foot—Tenotomy.*—A lad, aged about 18, had the anterior half of his right foot literally smashed, from the falling of a lot of ironware upon it; the skin was all torn, the bones crushed, and the muscles extensively lacerated. Amputation was performed by Mr. Lawrence at the articulation of the tarsus with the metatarsus; no untoward symptom followed, and with the exception of sloughing of a little of the flaps, the operation has ended favorably in leaving a good stump. From some cause not suspected, there has been a contraction of the tendons of the calf of the leg, with a drawing upwards of the heel, the stump resting upon its terminal end instead of the flat of the foot. The division of the tendon, therefore, became necessary, by the ordinary operation of tenotomy. On the 3rd June, Mr. Lawrence proceeded to perform this operation, and cut the tendon in the usual manner, but owing to its rigidity, when being cut the knife passed outwards, and cut through tendon and skin together. A suture was therefore applied to bring the edges of the wound together, and the foot bandaged with adhesive plaster, in its original position, to permit of partial union, and in six days after, to be placed into Scarpa's boot.

Neither of these patients were put under the influence of chloroform, and although both operations were of a minor character, they are recorded to illustrate the peculiarities which occasionally do present themselves during their performance.

*Conservative Surgery.*—Among the commonest surgical affections to be met with in most of our large hospitals, are to be found diseases of the bones of the lower extremities, and frequently attended with very troublesome and offensive ulcers. Such cases, from the annoyance